Notice to all State Ethics Liaisons and Ethics Compliance Officers

May 3, 2006

To State Ethics Liaisons and Ethics Compliance Officers:

Invitation to Educational Workshop for State Agency Ethics Liaisons/Compliance Officers

The Office of State Ethics (OSE) is pleased to invite each state agency Ethics Liaison Officer, and/or Ethics Compliance Officer and/or agency head to attend *one* of the following workshop sessions. The sessions are identical, and repeated for your planning convenience.

- Tuesday, June 6, 2006, 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m., Room 310 Capitol Building
- Wednesday, June 7, 2006, 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m., Room 310 Capitol Building

Please RSVP to Meredith.Trimble@ct.gov no later than May 26, 2006.

The workshops will provide you with an introduction to OSE's history, structure and staff. OSE staff will provide training on the Code of Ethics, Part I for Public Officials, as well as provide an overview of the enforcement process. You will also become familiar with OSE's many materials and resources that are available for your use.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Recent Advisory Opinions

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board has issued 3 Advisory Opinions in 2006. Summaries of the opinions are provided below. Simply click on the bolded number to be linked to the full text of the opinion.

• Advisory Opinion No. 2006-1

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board concluded that, in accordance with General Statutes § 1-84 (b)'s ban on outside employment that impairs independence of judgment, members of the Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee should not also be employed by, or paid board members of, institutions that submit applications for grant funds.

Note that following the release of this opinion, the Connecticut General Assembly passed legislation that waived the § 1-84 (b) ban on outside employment for the Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee.

• Advisory Opinion No. 2006-2

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board concluded, for purposes of General Statutes § 1-84b (b), (a revolving-door provision), that the University of Connecticut would constitute a "former agency" of a Governor of the state of Connecticut by virtue of his or her role as *ex-officio* president of the Board of Trustees.

• Advisory Opinion No. 2006-3

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board concluded that, as a result of General Statutes § 1-84 (q), goods or services provided to the state under General Statutes § 1-79 (e) (5), the "gifts-to-the-state" exception, may no longer be accepted from regulated donors. Goods or services meeting the requirements of the exception from non-regulated donors may

still be accepted. Necessary expenses for active participation in an event may be accepted from regulated as well as non-regulated donors.

Web Updates

New elements are continuously added to our Web site. This month, I encourage you to visit the new <u>Ethics Liaison/Compliance Officer Corner</u>. All OSE communications to you will be posted on this page for your reference.

Please also take a moment to read this month's <u>letter</u> from the Executive Director.

Thank you again for your enthusiasm and commitment to ethics in the state of Connecticut. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me at any time with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Meredith Trimble Director of Education Office of State Ethics 860-566-4472